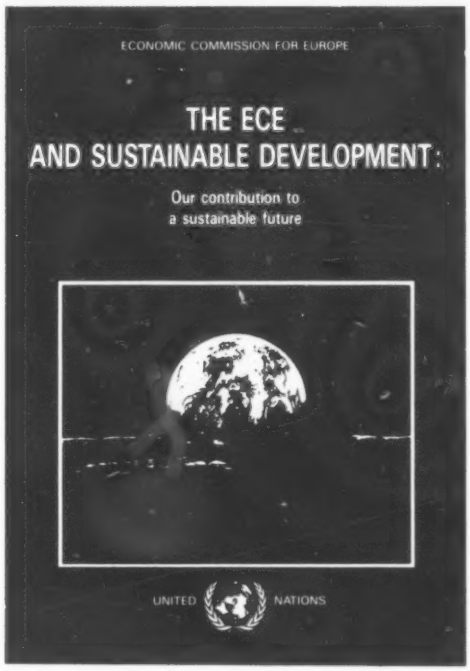
ECE Highlights

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

No. 7 - September 1990

BERGEN CONFERENCE CALLS ON UN/ECE TO STRENGTHEN EFFORTS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A regional follow-up Conference, at ministerial level, on the environment and development, held in Bergen, Norway, from 8 to 16 May adopted a Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Development in the UN/ECE Region and a "Joint Agenda for Action", prepared in co-operation with non-governmental organizations. Both documents call for intensified multilateral efforts to achieve sustainable development to meet the needs of the present generations without compromising future generations. These documents further affirm the need for enhanced activities by international organizations and in particular the UN/ECE.



This publication was prepared by the Executive Secretary of the UN/ECE for the Regional Conference at Ministerial level on the follow-up to the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) in the ECE region (Bergen, Norway, 8-16 May 1990).

Ministerial Declaration principles

The Ministerial Declaration states that sustainability cannot be achieved by action only at the level of individual ecosystems, economic sectors and geographic regions, but that a combination of national assessment and international co-ordination and co-operation is needed. The Declaration proclaims the special responsibilities of member countries of the UN/ECE in relation to global environmental problems; and focuses future action on common challenges such as the economics of sustainability; energy efficiency 2000; transport and the environment; sustainable industrial activities and environmentally sound technology; and public awareness-raising.

The economics of sustainability

UN/ECE is called upon to accelerate its work on natural resource accounting and pollution control expenditures regarding production costs.

Economic instruments such as taxes on environmentally damaging activities, tradable permits and fiscal incentives should be more extensively utilized. A co-ordinated approach to the use of such economic instruments would be facilitated by guidelines and studies undertaken by international organizations, notably the UN/ECE, OECD and EC.

Energy efficiency 2000

Governments agreed to initiate a UN/ECE region-wide campaign, "Energy Efficiency 2000", to enhance trade and co-operation in energy efficient, environmentally sound technologies and management practices to close the energy efficiency gap between UN/ECE countries, particularly between East and West.

The UN/ECE is called upon in the Ministerial Declaration to review progress in the introduction and updating of an energy labelling system and voluntary agreements or mandatory standards, for products and processes aimed at improving energy efficiency of buildings and appliances.

Sustainable Industry

In the field of sustainable industrial activities, co-operation on the prevention and control of transboundary impacts of industrial accidents is to be strengthened. It is proposed that a UN/ECE legal instrument on transboundary

impacts of industrial accidents be expeditiously elaborated. Sustainability in every sector of production, including forestry, agriculture and fisheries is also envisaged to be strengthened.

Environmentally sound technology

The Declaration recognized that the different levels of economic and technological development among the UN/ECE countries are an obstacle to progress within the region. Means to overcoming this problem should include proper financing and promoting transfer of environmentally sound technology, while ensuring that assistance to Eastern Europe for environmental purposes does not reduce aid to developing countries.

Follow-up action

The need to evaluate progress in the follow-up to the Bergen Conference as a key regional input at the ministerial level to the global Conference on the Environment and Development to be held in Brazil in 1992 was recognized. The Bergen Declaration recommends the convening of a high-level meeting of UN/ECE member countries in full co-operation with non-governmental organizations. The UN/ECE is invited to prepare a report on the Bergen Conference as a contribution to the 1992 Conference on Environment and Development.

ECE NEWS NOTES

Special Meeting of Experts on the changing Conditions in East-West Trade for Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises

A Special Meeting of Experts on the impact of East-West compensation trade on small- and medium-sized enterprises in the ECE region was convened from 2-4 May 1990. Based on a UN/ECE study and survey on the topic, participants examined the effects of compensation trade on SMEs, assistance measures currently available and the scope for improvement as well as possible solutions to the problems of compensation trade. Many experts expressed the opinion that compensation trade in its various forms would remain a reality in the foreseeable future and that it might even increase to some extent as a result of the economic reforms until effective currency convertibility was introduced. Several experts viewed compensation trade as a temporary and exceptional measure and expressed the hope that the meeting would assist small- and medium-sized enterprises which had been obliged to enter compensation transactions to find practical solutions that would allow the diminution and eventual elimination of this type of trade. The meeting proposed that UN/ECE continue its studies of SMEs in Central and Eastern Europe and the impact of the privatization process on the development and structure of East-West compensation trade. An analysis of how new financing mechanisms, such as debt-equity swaps, debt-commodity swaps and leasing could be applied to East-West compensation trade was also proposed.

New railway transport project in Central and Eastern Europe

A new railway transport project has been launched by the UN/ECE as a consequence of growing environmental concerns and the need to adapt the railway systems of East-ern and Central Europe to the expected increased demand for transport services following recent political and economic changes in many countries in the region. It will be executed by UN/ECE with the financial assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through a Central Project Office. The project is intended to improve the level and efficiency of transport services. The Office is located in Budapest and started operating on 1 May 1990. A number of studies and traffic flow analyses will be carried out under the project, which will serve as a basis for a global intermodal evaluation of the future demand for goods and passenger transport in the European region as a whole.

"Future generations would have to pay for our mistakes"

Gerald Hinteregger

Addressing the opening session of the regional conference on the Follow-up to the Report of the Word Commission on Environment and Development in the ECE Region held in Bergen, Norway from 8-16 May 1990, Mr. Gerald Hinteregger observed that the list of potential threats to the sustainable development of humanity had never been as worrisome as today and that the nations of the region were by now well aware that urgent action was needed. The international community had learned over the last few years that the problems linked to sustainable development could not be solved in isolation. Co-operation in many related fields and at all levels, national, regional and international was essential.

The Executive Secretary noted that many UN/ECE Governments, in defining their economic policies, were aware of the necessity to transform the concept of sustainable development into concrete action. At a moment when the face of Europe was changing dramatically it was indispensable that the UN/ECE region acted in this last decade of the century with a new approach to development. No longer could the mistakes of the past be allowed to continue, especially where environmental problems abound. Increased production and productivity could not remain the sole criteria for development in the 1990s. Future generations would have to pay for the mistakes for many years to come. The now evolving Common European Economic Space had to be built on a sound basis. Mr. Hinteregger stressed that UN/ECE constituted an efficient mechanism for implementing sustainable development throughout Europe and it stood ready to follow up the decisions taken at Bergen.

FOR THE RECORD

Eastern European energy exports to Western Europe and North America fell in 1989

According to provisional estimates, exports of coal, oil, gas and electricity from Eastern Europe and the USSR to Western Europe and North America fell by 2 % or 3.4 mil-

lion toe (tons of oil equivalent) to a level of 172 million toe. This is the first decrease since 1985. The overall decrease in 1989 is attributable to a decrease of Eastern oil exports which account for over 60 per cent of the total Eastern European energy exports. Oil exports fell by 9.7 % compared with an increase of 91 % in 1988. In contrast, Eastern European exports of gas, electricity and coal rose by 12.4 %, 13.3 % and 2.8 % respectively.

More than 80 million cubic metres of timber blown down by storms in the first quarter of 1990

Preliminary assessments put the volume of trees blown down in many parts of Western and Central Europe in the series of storms in the early months of 1990 at well over 80 million cubic metres and possibly as much as 100 million. Twelve affected countries have supplied provisional assessments to UN/ECE. The damage reported so far is equivalent to one-fifth of all annual fellings in Europe. All countries concerned are actively applying measures to minimize the impact of the additional volumes on markets, while at the same time taking steps to recover and stock damaged roundwood and to reduce the risk of secondary effects. The information is collected by means of a voluntary reporting scheme operated by the Timber Committee. The latest damage is the heaviest and most widespread to be reported since the scheme was introduced in 1983.

The volume of damaged timber reported so far to the Timber Committee secretariat is summarized below:

	Reported damage ($1000m^3$)	*Removal 1988*
Austria	4 791[a]	14 607
Belgium	5 500	3 980
Czechoslovakia	11 300	18 096
France	4 000[b]	42 412
German Democratic Republic	2 500	10 867
Germany, Federal Republic of	49 243	32 712
Ireland	165	1 282
Luxembourg	1 600	[c]
Netherlands	400	1 102
Poland	No damage	22 692
Switzerland	3 100	4 492
United Kingdom	1 250[a]	6 526

a Unofficial estimates.

b Incomplete information.

c Included with Belgium (removals in recent years in excess of 4 000 000 m^3).

Nearly 3500 East-West joint ventures registered and new regulations introduced in many Eastern European countries

The total number of East-West joint ventures registered in European countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) on 1 March 1990 has risen to an estimated figure of 3,495, as compared with 562 in January 1989. Most joint ventures are located in the Soviet Union, Hungary and Poland. These figures are published by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) in No. 4 of *East-West Joint Ventures News*, which also advises on new regulations in Poland, Romania, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. The statistical section focuses particularly on developments in Poland.

Off the Press

Membrane Technology in the Chemical Industry

Membranes and membrane processes are today employed in many areas of waste-water treatment, medical technology and the chemical industry.

In this new study UN/ECE analyses the present situation and new developments in membrane processes, such as microfiltration and ultrafiltration, reverse osmosis, dialysis and electrodialysis. One chapter is devoted to the economics of membrane processes and covers the cost of operation equipment and minimum overall cost.

ECE/CHEM/72. Sales No. 89.II.E.28. Price: $ US 23.00.

Annual Review of Engineering Industries and Automation

The Annual Review analyses developments in this important branch of industry in the ECE region (and Japan where appropriate) in the year 1988. The publication consists of two volumes, the first comprising analytical material and the second containing a statistical annex.

It deals with general economic developments in the ECE region during the period 1987-1988 and examines the performance of each of the five sectors of the engineering industries of various countries. International trade in engineering products, e.g. origin and destination of trade and analysis of trade flows by degree of technology intensity is also covered.

ECE/ENG.AUT/39 (vols. I and II). Sales No. E.89.II.E.27. Price: $US 50.00. (Vols. I and II may not be sold separately.)

New guide on international counterpurchase contracts

International countertrade is a fact of life in contemporary world trade and it takes many forms. The scope of the present guide is limited to one of these namely, counterpurchase. The guide's purpose is to provide potential parties to counterpurchase transactions with a basis for understanding the nature of the arrangement, to help them identify the problem areas associated with the various components of the deal, and to give them guidance in drawing up necessary contractual documents which define the rights and obligations of all parties.

ECE/TRADE/169. Sales No. E.90.II.E.3. Price: $US 25.00.

Environmental Series No. 3—Post-project analysis in environmental impact assessment

The increasing use of environmental impact assessments and their value in dealing with the economy-environment linkage has stimulated attempts to further improve this

READEX FICHE

practice. One of the most cost-effective tools for improving assessments of environmental impact is post-project analysis (PPA). This study presents the findings of a task force established by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems. The task force set out to determine the approaches used by those who have already undertaken successful post-project analyses (PPAs) and its findings are derived from a comparative analysis of 11 case studies. The present publication represents the state of knowledge and experience.

ECE/ENVWA/11. Sales No. E.90.II.E.6. Price: $US 19.00.

WHERE TO ORDER

The publications listed with sales prices may be ordered from: **United Nations Bookshop, Sales Unit, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland** and a number of bookstores in the ECE region. Send cheque or money order in US dollars made payable to: UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATIONS.

Those publications listed without a sales price may be obtained from the Information Officer, Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

LOOKING AHEAD

Seminar on Personal and Collective Services

9-12 October

The Seminar in being convened under the auspices of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments and will be held in the Hague, Netherlands. Its purpose is to analyse the development of personal and collective services in ECE countries and their impact on economic growth. Particular attention will be paid to factors determining the future growth of services and to new opportunities which they may provide for international trade and co-operation. Three topics will be covered at this seminar, e.g. the economics of personal and collective services growth, policy implications, and international aspects.

Seminar on Distribution Aspects of Housing and Taxation policies

15-19 October 1990

The Seminar to be convened at Karlskrona, Sweden and will be preceded by two days of technical visits in the south of Sweden on 13 and 14 October. This seminar is aimed at an exchange of information concerning the effects of housing and taxation policies on the distribution of housing quality and quantity among various population groups. The actual distribution of housing and housing expenditure in ECE countries will be analysed.

It is expected that the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar will assist ECE Governments in assessing housing and taxation policies, and be of benefit in formulating future measures which effectively promote a more even distribution of housing.

Seminar on Changes in Eastern Chemical Markets – The Role of Joint Ventures, Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries and Industry Federations

10-14 December 1990

To be convened in Warsaw, Poland. The Seminar will provide up-to-date information on the developments and prospects in creating East-West joint ventures in the chemical industry. It will discuss the latest legislative, economic and technical aspects of this new form of co-operation, including 100 % direct foreign investments. It is expected that the conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar will serve to improve the business and investment climate in East-West chemical industry relations.

ECE CALENDAR 1990

SELECTED EVENTS

September

11-14	COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING
10-14	Seminar on the Use of Pesticides in Forestry (to be held in Sparsholt, United Kingdom).
7-13	Study Tour on the Mechanization of Agriculture (to be held in the Federal Republic of Germany)
17-21	SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
24-28	Seminar on Demographic and Economic Consequences and Implications of Changing Population Age Structures (to be held in Ottawa, Canada)

October

3-5	CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE
8-12	TIMBER COMMITTEE
8-12	Seminar on the Role of Long-term Forecasting in the Formulation of Science and Technology Policies (to be held in the Hague, Netherlands)
15-19	Symposium on the Use of Computers in Agriculture (to be held in Leipzig, German Democratic Republic)
17-19	Symposium on the Use of Computers for Gas Transmission and Distribution Systems (to be held in Budapest, Hungary)
24-26	STEEL COMMITTEE
29-1 Nov.	SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENERGY

November

7-19	Seminar on the Rational Use of Electricity (to be held in Iassi (Moldavia), Romania)
12-16	Seminar on Air pollution Control in Engineering Industries (to be held in Geneva, Switzerland)
19-22	Executive Body the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution

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ECE Highlights

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE No. 8 December 1990

REHABILITATION ENGINEERING

UN/ECE's contribution to the Decade of Disabled Persons

More than 500 million disabled people all over the world are entitled to the same rights and to equal opportunities as other human beings. This is one of the main objectives of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons.

"Real Voice" capability for non-speaking people by Adaptive Communication Systems Inc.

United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, 1983-1992

As the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons is now drawing to an end, Governments, international organizations, experts and other involved individuals have started a serious evaluation aimed at providing a clear picture of the Decade's results and to promote more independent living by disabled persons. In this respect, a meeting held in May 1990 in Finland and organized by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations, suggested a number of priority actions and supported the holding of three workshops to review the existing and emerging rehabilitation technologies in the ECE region.

Rehabilitation engineering—rapid growth and multidisciplinary challenges

Rehabilitation engineering can have considerable positive effects on the lives of persons with physical and cognitive disabilities, their families and communities. Modern technology has facilitated functional capabilities through hearing and speaking aids, prosthetics and orthotics.

Rehabilitation engineering is also a multi-billion dollar and rapidly growing market. But the development of the field varies significantly from one country to another. While one country spends $US 30 per inhabitant per year on technical aids and appliances, others have only minor activity.

REHAB Workshops, 1990-1991

The first Workshop on Rehabilitation Engineering: REHAB-1 took place in Washington D.C. from 14 to 16 June 1990. It was held under the auspices of the ECE Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation in close co-operation with the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE) and the Interdisciplinary Association for the Advancement of Rehabilitation and Assistive Technologies—former Rehabilitation Engineering Society of North America (RESNA). REHAB-1 focused on the topic "Disability—a global perspective; what are the needs and how are they met?", and "Rehabilitation engineering—state of the art and emerging technologies". The Workshop concluded that the main reasons for the ongoing growth in the field include: growing awareness of the problem-solving potentials of rehabilitation engineering to include new user groups; an increasing survival rate due to new health technology; the

Panel discussion on international co-operation in rehabilitation engineering.

Challenges of transition

Gerald Hinteregger

The reform movement in the Soviet Union and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has underscored a new dynamism of Europe. According to Mr. Gerald Hinteregger, addressing the scond regular session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) the profound economic and social transformations under way in these countries have already created the momentum for the move from single-party to pluralistic political systems, parliamentary democracy and market economies.

Mr. Hinterreger observed that the tasks facing the Eastern economies in transition are enormous. To transform their economies into efficient market economies they need to embark on a programme of institutional change on a very broad front.

Political change in these countries may be rapid, but economic adjustment is generally slower. The known quantities of the central planning system have been eroded more quickly than alternative mechanisms of the market can be put in their place. Particular problems vary from country to country. They include rising inflation and even hyperinflation. In several countries a prominent aspect of the economic crisis is high external debt, which has required or will soon result in tough stabilization policies.

Implications for international monetary and finance systems

Mr. Hinteregger drew attention to the fact that while Eastern countries require external funds to support reform and restructure their economies, the supply of new credits available to them from commercial sources has diminished and become more costly. He pointed out that official multilateral financing provided by the IMF and the World Bank is expected to play an expanded role in satisfying the East's financial needs and it appears that most Eastern countries will also become eligible for loans from the European Investment bank. A second source of funds is available from the evolving Group of 24 programme, co-ordinated by the European Community and initially set up to support the transition process in Hungary and Poland.

Both Eastern and Western Governments expect that foreign direct investment will provide major new sources of non-debt-creating finance for the modernization and restructuring of the Eastern economies.

Rehabilitation engineering . . . (*cont. from page 1*)

growing number of disabled persons due to accidents, including environmental impacts; the expanding number of older persons in the region and the new relations in the East-West context and the consequent new market openings. Consideration of these and other topics will continue at REHAB-2 scheduled to take place at Fagernes, Norway, from 10 to 13 February 1991.

The third and final Workshop is expected to be convened in a country of Central or Eastern Europe in the second half of 1991. Consideration will be given to the impact on the rehabilitation engineering field of the political, economic and social changes during the transition period in Eastern Europe.

ECE UPDATE

European statisticians discuss role of statistical office in transition countries

The thirty-eighth plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians, held in Geneva from 11 to 15 June 1990, discussed the current plans and needs of statistical offices of countries in transition from centrally planned to market economies. As the system of socio-economic management in transition countries is changing profoundly, the identification of statistical user requirements will have to be continuously monitored as transition proceeds. A problem common to many transition countries seems to be the dilemma of the urgency with which statistics are required during the transition process and the long-term requirements of the statistical office which will require the installation of sound statistical practices.

UN/ECE Executive Secretary heads UN mission to areas affected by Chernobyl nuclear accident

As part of the implementation of Economic and Social Council Resolution 1990/50 on international co-operation to address and ameliorate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, the United Nations Secretary-General sent a United Nations mission in September to the affected areas of the Soviet Union. He appointed Mr. Gerald Hinteregger to head the mission in his personal capacity. Officials from UNDRO, UNEP, UNICEF, the UN Centre for Human Settlements, the United Nations Office at Vienna and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development took part. A comprehensive report taking into account the outcome of the mission together with information regarding the ongoing activities carried out by IAEA, WHO, FAO and other specialized agencies has been submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

New joint venture legislation in Eastern Europe

The number of foreign investment registrations in the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) has continued to grow rapidly in the first half of 1990. UN/ECE estimates that in the five European member countries excluding the German Democratic Republic, the number had reached 5,070 by the end of June 1990 as compared with 562 at the beginning of 1989 and 3,035 at the beginning of 1990. These figures are published in *East-West Joint Ventures News*, No. 5. This newsletter also provides information about new East-West Joint Ventures regulations in Romania and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. Issue No. 6 of *East-West Joint Ventures News* provides the most current information on the increases of these registrations in the USSR, Hungary and Poland.

Air pollution in Eastern and Southern Europe: bridging the technology gap

More than 100 experts on anti-pollution technology met in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, to discuss a major environmental problem now facing most countries of Eastern and Southern Europe: how to reduce intolerable air pollution levels without lowering industrial production and basic energy supplies. The four-day Dubrovnik Meeting on Industrial Co-operation for Air Pollution Control Technology was held from 17-20 September 1990 under the auspices of UN/ECE and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The main topics discussed included technical methods to reduce air pollution from stationary emission sources such as power plants, industrial processes and waste incinerators. The meeting focused on the specific problems and needs of ten Eastern and Southern European countries which currently receive United Nations technical assistance (Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia). All these countries have indequate economic and industrial infrastructures. They also share the serious environmental consequences of this situation.

A total of 19 industrial reports, outlined new technologies to cope with these environmental problems. One of the main objectives of the Dubrovnik meeting was to establish direct contact between "polluting" industries and the growing sector of "environmental" industries—bridging a technology gap in order to safeguard the environment.

Meeting on changing population age structures

24-28 September 1990

Demographic projections for countries in the region of UN/ECE show that over the course of the next several decades many countries expect to encounter important shifts in their population age structures affecting not only the older age groups but also the working age and younger population. Shifts in the age structure are likely to result in a large number of important economic and demographic consequences and implications for Governments in the region in fields such as health care, employment, pension schemes, education and training programmes, and family and household composition. The Conference of European Statisticians organized, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), an international meeting on Demographic and Economic Consequences and Implications of Changing Population Age Structures, in Ottawa, Canada. The meeting provided Governments the opportunity to discuss and foresee some of the likely consequences of such changes in order to plan and develop appropriate national policies and programmes aimed at addressing the most relevant issues.

KEEPING INFORMED WITH ECE PUBLICATIONS

Towards a new container generation

The importance of inland transport of maritime containers is increasing world-wide. The world is witnessing an evolution towards larger dimensions of loading units, mainly originating in the United States of America and the Far East, which has reached a point where the road and rail infrastructure in Europe and in many developing countries is unable to accommodate this transport. It was evident that international concerted action at the governmental level was urgently required in order to promote the intermodality and interchangeability of combined transport equipment. Consequently, UN/ECE convened a seminar in November 1989 to consider the problem and to define a long-term strategy on maximum dimensions of loading units acceptable to all parties concerned. Based on the outcome of this seminar, a new study has just been published which reflects the present situation and the prospects for future developments of this important branch of the transport industry.

Containers — Towards a New Generation of Inland and Maritime Loading Units. Proceedings of a Seminar on the Impact of Increasing Dimensions of Loading Units on Combined Transport (Geneva, 13-16 November 1989). Sales No. E.90.0.5. Price: $US 60.00.

The economies of Europe and North America in mid-1990

According to a mid-term update to the *Economic Survey of Europe in 1989-1990* the contrast between economic performance in the West and in the erstwhile centrally planned economies of the East has become even more marked in the first half of 1990. Economic growth continues strongly in the market economies while in the East there is general deepening recession. Recently released, this document provides an update of ECE's assessment of the economic situation in the region. It reflects on the likely consequences of the German economic and monetary union and considers some of the possible effects on the rest of the world of the reforms in the Eastern countries.

The ECE economies in mid-1990 — The full text may be obtained from the ECE Information Unit.

How to utilize by-products of the steel industry

The production of each tonne of crude steel gives rise to about 550-600 kg of by-products, which are increasingly being used as raw materials in various manufacturing branches. Two factors influence the efficiency of the utilization of by-products: raw material costs and the costs of disposal and environmental pollution. A new study published by the UN/ECE Steel Committee describes the current state of the utilization of by-products and secondary energy and examines future trends. The study is based on national monographs, and material received from specialized institutions and organizations.

The Recuperation and Economic Utilization of By-products of the Iron and Steel Industry (ECE Steel Series 1990). Sales No. E.90.II.E.13. Price: $US 42.00).

OTHER SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

Agricultural Review for Europe, No. 32, 1988 and 1989.

Volume IV: The livestock and meat market (ECE/AGRI/110 (Vol. IV)). Sales No. E.90.II.E.26. Price: $US 15.00

Volume V: The milk and dairy products market (ECE/AGRI/110 (Vol. V)). Sales No. E.90.II.E.27. Price: $US 15.00.

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLII, No. 2. Survey of medium-term trends for wood raw material, notably pulpwood, and wood for energy. Price: $US 10.00 (Annual subscription $US 80.00).

HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

Trends in Research on Human Settlements in ECE Countries (ECE/HBP/77). Sales No. E.90.II.E.9. Price: $US 10.00.

TRADE

International Counterpurchase Contracts (ECE/TRADE/169). Sales No. E.90.II.E.3. Price: $US 25.00.

TRANSPORT

Europe's Railway of the '90s — a white paper (TRANS/SC.2/172).

ECE CALENDAR

SELECTED EVENTS

1990

December

3-7	COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE
3-12	Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
13	Special Working Group on Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe
14	Resumed forty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Europe

1991

January

7-10	Workshop on Public Finance and Monetary Statistics
14-18	Symposium on Methods and Concepts for the Use of Organic and Chemical Fertilizers
21-24	COMMITTEE ON GAS
28-1	INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
28-30	Workshop on the Application of International Classifications in ... Statistics
29-31	*Ad hoc* Meeting on Energy Efficiency 2000

February

4-7	COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER
4-8	Meeting on Labour Force Statistics
8	Meeting of Experts on the Steel Market
11-15	Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
12-14	Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency Standards
20-22	Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation

February-March

21-1	Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport
25-1	SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS
25-1	Working Party on Electronic Data Processing

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